

Membership Report

submitted by
Pauline Reid, Membership Chair

We have come to another year in the JCA calendar. The past year was full of excitement and some challenges. Last year we had our first Membership Annual Barbecue, the turn-out was moderate but we had a great time. We hosted our Annual Picnic/Outing at Riverside Park in Guelph. Based on comments made, the park was lovely but the turnout for the buses was low, so this year we decided to go local. The senior's brunch was one of our most popular events and was again a great success. A big thank-you goes out Ms. Erma Collins, who was the MC for the event.

The children's Christmas party saw lost registration last year. Zenova Brown coordinated some theme building games with the children and their parents.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the backbone of the Membership Services Committee Mr. Hector Gray. He has done an outstanding job by keeping the line of communication open with the members. Great job Hector!

I truly gained some invaluable experiences, not only from the board but also from the wider membership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my devoted and dedicated committee members for all their hard work and commitment to the cause of the association.

The committee members are as follows:

Winston Brown, Owen Dunbar, Myrtle Grant, Shirley Mckoy, Dean Parker, Pansy Stewart. Eulin Lewinson, Ina Powell and Rachelle Alincy. To the ad-hoc members Amy Nelson, Gifford & Raphaelita Walker, Sheila Raymond and Hyacinth Wilson.

I will not be seeking re elections to the Board this June. I would like to thank the members and board of the Jamaican Canadian Association for all their support over the years. I will leave with some wonderful memories of the great people I met during my tenure.

I would like to wish my successor all the best.

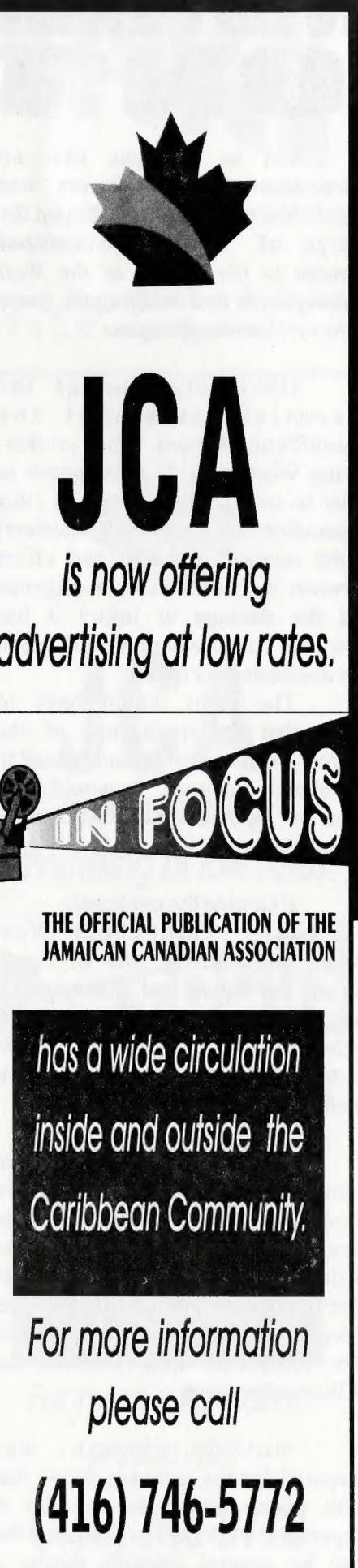
Please mark these upcoming events in your calendar:

Sunday, July 11th - Annual Picnic/Outing to Boyd's Park (please see flyer for more info).

Sunday, April 1st - Flag Raising Ceremony @ City Hall - 2:00pm

Saturday, August 28th Annual Membership Barbecue in the Members Lounge. Starting at 2:00pm. (FREE, FREE).

Hope to see you at all of the above events.



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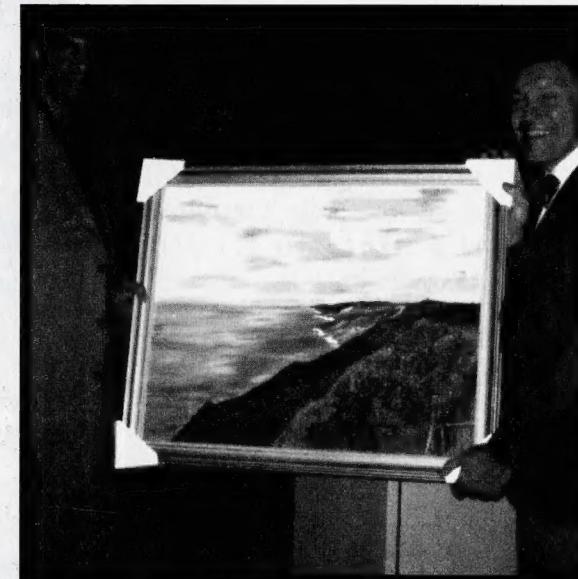
For more information
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JCA SALUTES John Honderich

On Thursday, May 20, 2004, the Jamaican Canadian Association honored Mr. John Honderich (the Toronto Star's Outgoing publisher), a stalwart in Canadian media.

The event took the form of a reception where members of Toronto's Black community spoke, out of great respect, about Honderich's contribution to the community, his heightened sense of fairness and his fearless way of articulating what is just and equitable.

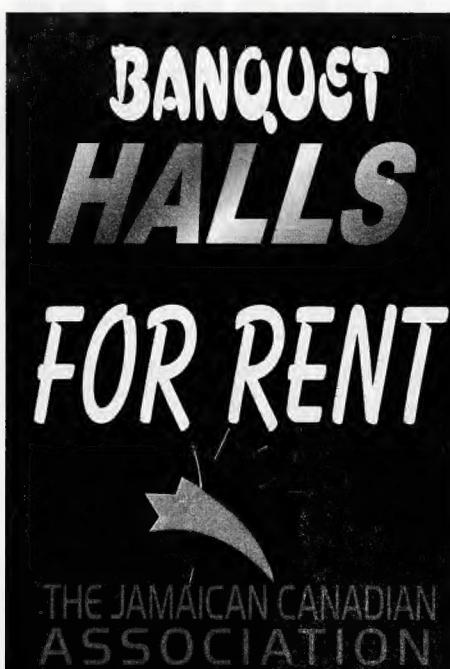
Honderich became publisher of the Toronto Star in 1994, following a six-year term as editor of the newspaper, Canada's largest-circulation daily.



Mr. Honderich is seen above receiving a token of appreciation from artist Phil Campbell



Mr. Honderich (above, center) was photographed with prominent members of the community including Valarie Steele and Herman Stewart, president and vice president of the JCA respectively.



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REPORT OF JCA'S 2004 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Continued

workshops, and conferences across North America.

- Active involvement in church community; has been applying her technological skills as a WEB designer in an effort to furthering the Kingdom of God.

- Active in BMO Bank of Montreal Diversity Council, whose focus is increasing the awareness and advocacy for diversity and workplace equity.

- Tutor for youths 7 to 12 in JCA's Saturday Morning Project.

- Hosts workshops for "students at risk": Brampton high school community.

Chair Fundraising Committee, 2-year Term: Julian Gordon

Julian Gordon is an active community member and is proud to be of Jamaican heritage. He was born in Montreal and grew up in Toronto. He graduated from the University of Guelph with a B.Sc. (Biological Science) and attended Dalhousie Law School. He has a keen interest in enhancing the JCA's use of a variety of fundraising concepts.

Relevant Skills

- Knowledge of capital campaigns, major gifts, sponsorship, grant writing, and direct marketing.
- Experience in event planning, a fact that will enable him to contribute a significant amount of insight

into how JCA can increase its income.

Relevant Experience

- As president of the Black Law Students' Association of Canada, he successfully worked with a committed group and raised over \$60,000 in less than six months to support an annual conference.

- Has experience in securing funding from government agencies, corporations and foundations.

- Recently, he played a role in initiating and drafting a proposal for a feasibility study that was submitted to the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Board of Trustees of 5 Members, 1 and 2-year Terms

Article 12 of the Constitution calls for a Board of Trustees and outlines their duties. The following long-standing members of the JCA have agreed to be trustees. The members will decide among themselves who will serve for 1 year and who will serve for 2 years to allow for overlapping terms:

- Edna Smith-Bowes
- Byron Carter
- Carol Plunkett
- Gifford Walker
- To be announced

Volunteers are needed at the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) Centre



To establish a Scout Movement. The Scout Movement will provide stimulating indoor and outdoor programs for young people from 5-26 years. Scouts Canada and members of the Canadian Armed Forces will provide the necessary training and guidance in operating the group.

For further information, please contact
The JCA,
416-746-5772



LETTERS to the EDITOR

Continued

What kinds of materials are needed?

- Dead files of Board Minutes, Committees' Reports, handwritten notes made by individuals at Board or Committees' meetings.
- Any JCA'S publications including flyers, magazines.
- News paper clippings on anything pertaining to JCA.
- Audio-tapes, videos, super 8 films and photographs of JCA activities.
- Personal family correspondence, and manuscripts.

Draft of articles about JCA (Unpublished.)

How and when can I contribute materials to the Archive? You can make your contribution at anytime. All you have to do is to contact the Executive Director or Dr. Conville (Coordinator of Project) at the JCA to arrange for delivery to the JCA Centre. You are not obliged to sort materials. The Archive will do this for you.

What are some of the other things you need to know?

Materials will be stored under the broad heading of the Jamaican Canadian Association. Storage can be done under sub-headings. For example, if a contributor wants his/her materials labeled as say Jane Doe or John Doe's collections the Archive will honour this request.

You can have your materials valued, and receive an income tax

JAMAICA LAND WE LOVE

Continued

society are equally responsible as well as the government in effecting the changes necessary in the society to bring about positive changes. Elementary and secondary schools need to develop a values component in all subject areas to develop good citizenship.

The institutions of higher learning, and especially the University of the West Indies, must become active in providing the leadership both in theory and in practice to assist the citizens in developing and in maintaining an orderly and progressive society. The "us and them" syndrome must be eliminated.

It is incumbent on the Established Churches in Jamaica to "fan" out in the society and compete for the minds of the young. The full resources of these Churches must be ever actively present in areas such

deduction from the Archive.

- The JCA or private donors can request a time period in which particular materials should not be made public.
- Students doing research will have access to the collections.

Periodically, materials from the collections will be displayed in an open house format.

Mr. Myron Momryk of the National Archive is seeking an audience with the general membership at one of JCA'S Quarterly Meeting to answer questions pertaining to the collection and storage of our materials. In the meantime, I will make myself available to answer questions about

as West Kingston and Flankers. The media must continue to expose infamy within the society, but also make constructive suggestions.

To the business sector, there are a few positives for more of you to emulate. How satisfying it is to see the Sandals Establishment retraining young people in Flankers for the job market, and the Michael Lee Chin's philosophy of combining a business purpose with a social focus especially in the field of intellectual capital taking shape. Other business establishments need to adopt similar ventures in West Kingston and Spanish Town and continue this trend of being good corporate citizens.

The major key to a renaissance within the society however, must come from the home. You do not have to be wealthy to inculcate good societal values in your offspring. Parents must become partners with their school and places of worship in inculcating good societal values. This is where the renaissance must begin.

Dr. Vincent G. Conville
Aurora, Ontario.

the collection of materials.

This is a worthwhile project, which should be supported. We cannot afford to let this opportunity go unsupported. This is the safest way to save our history for posterity. Keeping these materials at home will not ensure their survival after we have passed on.

I would like to have the first collection of materials by the last week of July 2004. I am also seeking your help in contacting former JCA members and informing them about this worthwhile project.

Dr. Vincent G. Conville

President's REPORT

Continued

It was not long before it became the most important source of advocacy for a better life for immigrants in this country. Due to the fact that its membership included many teachers who were either trained in Jamaica or attended colleges in Canada, the association turned its attention the field of education. In 1963 the association launched a scholarship fund for Afro-Caribbean students attending post-secondary educational institutions. This project was funded by individual members and from profits accruing from fund raising activities. It was deemed compulsory that a portion of all the funds raised would be used to fund scholarships. The JCA's scholarship programme predates all the scholarships that are now in existence in our community.

We are looking for more scholarships and if you know someone who can afford to donate one or a few please do not hesitate to encourage them to do so. Also, if you work in a corporation that awards scholarships, please make a request on our behalf.

Partnerships: The JCA continues to be a partner at many levels in the community. We have partnerships with our core funder the United Way, the Black Business and Professional Organization, the African Canadian Legal Clinic, the Jane Finch Concerned Citizens Organization, to name a few. These initiatives not only strengthen our position in the community but they ensure that when we make a request from any of these partners, we get their cooperation.

The JCA has prospered over the last 15

year and that can be fully attributed to the dedication of our many volunteers. As I approach the end of my 2-year term as president it is fitting that I should say THANK YOU for your support over the years. Some of that time has been baptism by fire but I soldiered on. It was never about me, it was always about the community and what is the right thing to do. I am very proud of my accomplishments with the JCA and I know that all the bridges that we have built will be strongly reinforced.

Federal Elections: This is a very important election and I sincerely hope that you will get fully involved. Help your candidate do the many tasks that are required in an election. If you have zero time to do this, write a cheque and send it to your favourite candidate to help financially. Our very existence here will be severely challenged if we do not become politically involved. This is good advice, take it. It is all about the survival of our community. If you are not a Canadian citizen as yet, become one before the next election.

To our many volunteers who work tirelessly to make this association run smoothly, a million thanks - we could not do without you and we want you to know that we deeply appreciate your contribution to the JCA.

Have a wonderful summer,
WALK GOOD.

YOUTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Continued

Likewise, YAC is proud to announce, in collaboration with the Education Committee, the launch of its *Rising Star Scholarship*. The \$1,000 scholarship, funded by the proceeds raised from the Young Professional Gala event, will be awarded this fall at the annual JCA Scholarship Dinner event. It will be issued to a post-secondary student that exemplifies outstanding academic achievement and community involvement. Watch this space for more details regarding application criteria.

With summer just around the corner, YAC would like to send a special summer send-off to students: **Stay safe, have fun & get out there and volunteer!!!** Make a difference in the community and you will build and enhance your skills. Everyone has something to give and has an integral part to play in the community. Put your time and energy towards constructive and positive endeavors. Parents, encourage your children. Let's take back our streets from violence and destruction!

JAMAICAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
CELEBRATES 42
CARING and SHARING

TIDBITS

By Alton Telfer

We have survived another severe winter, but looking back, it was easier to tolerate this time than previous ones.

Former Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman would definitely have no reason to call out the Army this time. However we can regard January 2004 as being the coldest month of the season. I remember clearly those perpetual minus 18-22 degrees Celsius temperatures compounded with frequent snowfalls and freezing rain.

In February I decided that I had enough and decided to pattern Bruce McDonald's yearly system and took off to Jamaica. There we met from time to time, visited various parts of the Island and were guests at various cook-out (Barbeques).

Toronto Chief of Police Mr. Julian Fantino was in Kingston at the same time, but being on different missions, we never met.

Other visitors to the Island at the time were boat-loads of Refugees, running from the turmoil in Haiti, seeking Asylum in Jamaica. As a compassionate people, we took them in temporarily until their situation there got better. We did the same for the elected president Jean-Bertram Aristide. The story was told that Aristide was forced or kidnapped from his residence by Americans and was taken to Africa. Our Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, a friend of his and a Caribcom brother, decided to reunite him with his wife and two children who were staying temporarily in another country, by giving them a ten week stay in

Jamaica. A few people in Jamaican, including the leader of the opposition Mr. Edward Seaga objected to the action but I commend such act of compassion.

You must have heard by this time that Air Jamaica (Love Bird) is back in the skies from Kingston to Toronto. The inaugural flight was April 5/04. The Chairman Mr. Gordon Butch Stewart, (no relation to Herman Stewart), the Prime Minister P.J. Patterson and some of his Cabinet ministers were on board on that day. Mr. Stewart hosted a lavish Dinner & Dance at the Royal York Hotel, Down Town Toronto; in Honor of the return of the Airline after being absent for fourteen years.

All seven hundred guests rocked to the melodious reggae music of Byron Lee and the Dragonaires. Mr. Stewart regrets that he could not have invited the many people who wanted to attend and did not get an invitation, but the hall could only accommodate so much.

Notwithstanding, I urge you to fly Air Jamaica whenever you are going back to the rock (a fe we airline dat). Golf season is here again and JCA's Golf Committee is busy making plans for the 5th annual charity golf classic to be held on Saturday August 14th at Cardinal Golf and Country Club. We anticipate your support. You can sponsor a "Tee" or a "Hole", the prices are \$350 and \$150.00 respectively. Give a gift for the prize table or ask the store manager where you shop to do the same. There will be adequate publicity for donors. We also urge players to come in and

register for the tournament.

I must also inform you that two years consecutively the Golf Committee took a golf team to Jamaica in February 2003 and 2004 to play at Ufton Golf Club in Ocho Rios. Thirty people went down this year compared to eleven last year. Thanks to Pam Lecky of Maribel Travel who co-ordinated the trip. Next year, team is expected to be bigger.

You must have heard the name Peter Goldring, an MP in Edmonton. He is profoundly urging the Canadian Government to annex the Turks & Caicos Island in the Caribbean and make it the Eleventh Province in Canada. What are your thoughts on that?

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Please continue to support this fund by donating to
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Out of Many One People

Continued

It was the first modern political body to do so (**Miami Herald**, 1999).

The British Empire declared equal rights for Jews living in any colony in the early 19th century.

Jewish settlements were established in both Kingston and Spanish Town. There were two Synagogues in Spanish Town, the Neveh Shalom (Habitation of Peace) consecrated in 1704, and Mikveh Yisrael (Hope of Israel) erected in 1796. The former was located on Monk Street and the latter on Young Street. Although there was a union of these congregations in 1844, services were held only occasionally in one or other of the two Synagogues. This was due to the gradual but steady exodus of the Jewish families from the town to Kingston and also to a



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ASSOCIATION**

**TOGETHER
WE CAN
DO IT.**

certain amount of emigration to England and the United States.

The history of Jews in Jamaica is one that is not well known or publicized. Their place gets lost in more colorful tales of Spanish conquistadors, cutthroat pirates, and continual battles between the European powers over territory. Notwithstanding, their importance should not be underestimated. It is said that a Jew introduced sugar cane to the Caribbean; this crop was the mainstay of the economy for several hundred years.

([Http://www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers2.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers2.htm)).

As 2005 approaches, the Jewish community is preparing to celebrate 350 years of free religious practice in Jamaica. Today the numbers have dwindled to close to 200 practicing Jews. However, that number would be tremendously larger if it were a measure simply along bloodlines as many Jamaicans are descendants of Jews although they do not officially practice Judaism.

Well-known Jamaican Jews: As published in the Jamaican Gleaner - <http://www.jamaicagleaner.com/pages/history/story0054.htm>

* Poet Daniel Lopez Laguna, 1635-1730, a survivor of the Inquisition who converted biblical Psalms into poems. A book of these poems, "Espejo Fiel de Vidas," The True Mirror of Life, was published in 1720 and holds the distinction of being the first book to be published in Jamaica under British rule.

* 19th century painter Isaac Mendes Belisario, whose famed "Belisario" prints of Jamaican characters are cultural icons, now featured on a series of Jamaican stamps.

* Newspapermen Jacob and Joshua de Cordova, who founded the "Gleaner" in 1833. Jacob went on to found the city of Waco, Texas.

* Ward Theatre architect Rudolph Henriques, a noted artist whose firm Henriques and Sons was awarded the commission in a competition. The majestic landmark was built in 1912.

* Sir Neville Noel Ashenheim, a member of a family known as legal luminaries, served as Jamaica's first ambassador to Washington, 1960s.

* Richard Stern, the Hon. Ernest Altamont da Costa and Councillor/Senator Hon. Eli Matalon, served as Mayors of Kingston in 1896-97, 1925-27 and 1971-73 respectively.

* The Matalon family, known as one of Jamaica's longstanding captains of industry and supporters of the arts.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY

JUNE 27, 2004

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Jamaican Canadian Centre
995 Arrow Road**

**For further information call
JCA at (416) 746-5772**

JCA's web page/address - Web Site: www.jcassoc.com • E-mail: info@jcassoc.com



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JCA'S PROGRAMS

Settlement Services for New Immigrants

This program is designed to assist newcomers to Canada, primarily those with residence of three years or less. Clients get information on employment, education, housing, family sponsorship and other services.

Youth and Family Services

Culturally sensitive counseling is provided to youth and families experiencing conflict inside and outside the home. There are also support groups for adolescent girls and incarcerated youth.

Domestic Violence and Incest/Child Sexual Abuse Program

Designed to address and eradicate violence on the lives of women and children through culturally-sensitive services, advocacy and public education. Services include individual and group counseling.

Leaders-in-Partnership (LIP)

A 10-12 week social development program for school children age 7-12 years, whose behavioral problems puts them at risk of delinquency. Topics include Anger Management,

Building Self-Esteem, and what happens when a child gets in trouble with the law. Operated in partnership with 31 Division of Toronto Police Services.

Parenting Program

Provides group and individual counseling and information to mothers and children 0-12 years, in the areas of health and nutrition, child discipline, and other issues related to healthy child development and parent-child relationships.

Opportunity Plus +

A job preparation program for unemployed workers 45 years of age and over. Clients receive quick personal help in preparing resumes and polishing their interview skills, including the use of the Internet, review job postings and participates in scheduled workshops, including individual counseling.

K-Club(and "Junior K")

A 10-week transition program offering group support and individual counseling, addressing Anger Management, Conflict Resolution and related issues, age 12-26 years.

Caribbean Canadian Seniors

Club is a separate agency within the Jamaican Canadian Association. The club provides Health and Wellness workshops, encouraging members to live active healthy lifestyles, and to lobby on issues of interest to seniors. Members meet at the JCA Community Centre on Tuesdays and Thursday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Summer Camp

Provides age-specific recreational and educational activities for children age 6-12 years in Arts & Crafts, Trips and much more in a safe environment with qualified camp staff. (A small fee is charged to support this program). All other services are Free of Cost.

Language spoken: English & Twi The JCA is wheel-chair accessible

The JCA appreciates the support of our Funders (Donors & Partners): The United Way of Greater Toronto; Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration; the City of Toronto; Human Resources and Skills Development Canada; and the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services; and the Canadian Mental Health.

Please visit our web site or contact our office at 416-746-5772 Monday-Fridays for more information

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
<u>JCA ANNUAL PICNIC</u>	Sun. July 4	TBA	TBA
<u>ANNUAL FLAG-RAISING</u>	Sun. Aug. 1	TBA	JCA CENTRE
<u>CHURCH SERVICE</u>	Sun. Aug. 1	TBA	TBA
<u>JAMAICA INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION</u>			
<u>JCA'S QUARTERLY MEETING</u>	Sun. Aug. 24	2:00 pm	JCA CENTRE